

Atty. Docket No. 4002-2533

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Branch et al.

Serial No. 09/870,023

Filed May 30, 2001

INTERBODY FUSION GRAFTS  
AND INSTRUMENTATION) Before the Examiner  
) Philogene) Group Art Unit  
) 3731) Submitted  
) March 19, 2004**COPY**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENTCommissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant wishes to bring to the attention of the Examiner the patents, publications, and/or other information listed on the attached PTO Form 1449 (modified). Copies of cited items are enclosed in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56(b).

This Statement is being submitted after filing of the application and after receipt of the First Office Action. The US Patent & Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge the fee of \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted,

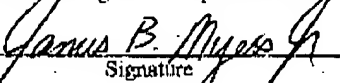
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

March 19, 2004

(Date of Deposit)

James B. Myers, Jr.

Name of Registered Representative

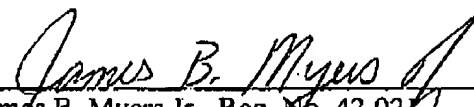


Signature

March 19, 2004

(Date of Signature)

By:

  
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